

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BONN 08351 01 OF 02 140153Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05
CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EPG-02 DODE-00 EB-07
FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-15 OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04
TRSE-00 ACDA-10 NRC-07 PA-02 PRS-01 FRB-01 XMB-04
OPIC-06 LAB-04 SIL-01 /166 W
-----140221Z 119540 /20

R 131840Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8281
INFO AMCONSUL BREMEN
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMCONSUL STUTTGART
USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 08351

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, GW ENRG

SUBJECT: DGB ENDORSES USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BONN 08351 01 OF 02 140153Z

SUMMARY: THE DGB HAS COME OUT IN FAVOR OF THE GOVERN-
MENT'S ENERGY POLICY, GIVING NUCLEAR ENERGY A CONDI-
TIONAL "YES". THE DGB DECLARATION WARNS THAT A
POLICY OF ECONOMIC GROWTH, ORIENTED TOWARD FULL
EMPLOYMENT, CANNOT BE ACHIEVED WITHOUT THE USE OF
NUCLEAR ENERGY AND SUGGESTS A 10-POINT PROGRAM TO
SOLVE THE ENERGY PROBLEM. END SUMMARY.

1. AT ITS MEETING ON APRIL 5, THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE GERMAN TRADE UNION FEDERATION (DGB) UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED A STATEMENT WHICH ENDORSES THE GOVERNMENT'S ENERGY POLICY AS LAID DOWN IN THE CHANCELLOR'S GOVERNMENT DECLARATION OF DECEMBER 16, 1976. THE ENDORSEMENT IS LIMITED, HOWEVER, BY THE CONDITION THAT THE SAFETY OF THE WORKERS INVOLVED AND THE PEOPLE IN GENERAL BE GUARANTEED IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF NUCLEAR REACTORS AND IN THE DISPOSAL OF NUCLEAR WASTE.

2. THE STATEMENT POINTS OUT THAT A POLICY OF ECONOMIC GROWTH ORIENTED TOWARD FULL EMPLOYMENT REQUIRES ADEQUATE SUPPLIES OF ENERGY. THIS GOAL CANNOT BE ACHIEVED, IN THE DGB'S OPINION, IF THE USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY IS COMPLETELY RENOUNCED IN SPITE OF ATTEMPTS TO SAVE ENERGY, TO UTILIZE MORE COAL OR TO DEVELOP NEW ENERGY SOURCES.

3. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE DGB WENT ON RECORD OPPOSING THE "UNDIFFERENTIATED DEMAND" FOR AN UNCONDITIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF A NETWORK OF NUCLEAR PLANTS. THE DECLARATION CITED MISGIVINGS ABOUT THE STILL UNCLARIFIED SAFETY RISKS INVOLVING THE PROTECTION OF THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE ENVIRONMENT.

4. IN THE SECOND PART OF ITS POLICY PRONOUNCEMENT, THE DGB PROPOSED A 10-POINT PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC DIS-

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 BONN 08351 01 OF 02 140153Z

CUSSION WHICH, INTER ALIA, CALLED FOR:

A) SAVING ENERGY WITHOUT JEOPARDIZING THE GOAL OF FULL EMPLOYMENT;

B) EXTENDING THE USE OF DOMESTIC HARD COAL FOR ENERGY PRODUCTION. (OUTMODED POWER PLANTS SHOULD BE REPLACED BY MODERN INSTALLATIONS ALSO USING HARD COAL.);

C) CONTINUING CONSTRUCTION FOR POWER PLANTS NOW IN PREPARATION, WITH THE PROVISIO THAT OPERATION PERMITS SHOULD BE ISSUED ONLY AFTER THE PROBLEM OF THE DISPOSAL OF NUCLEAR WASTES HAS BEEN SUFFICIENTLY CLARIFIED;

D) APPEALING TO THE GOVERNMENT TO PREPARE POLITICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ALTERNATIVES IF THE SAFETY AND DISPOSAL PROBLEMS OF NUCLEAR ENERGY CANNOT BE SOLVED AS EXPECTED;

E) PROMOTING MORE INTENSIVE AND URGENT RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE SPHERE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY IN

ORDER TO REDUCE THE SAFETY RISK, IMPROVE SAFETY
STANDARDS, MAINTAIN THE GERMAN ABILITY TO EXPORT
TECHNOLOGY AND FACILITIES, AND SAFEGUARD JOBS IN
THE INDUSTRIES INVOLVED.

5. COMMENT: THE DGB STATEMENT REPRESENTS A COMPROMISE
BETWEEN DIVERGING INTERESTS WITHIN THE LABOR MOVEMENT.
A NUMBER OF UNION OFFICIALS, PARTICULARLY INTELLECTUALS
IN UNION HEADQUARTERS, OPENLY SYMPATHIZED WITH THE
ANTI-NUCLEAR ENERGY MOVEMENT AND THE SO-CALLED CITI-

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BONN 08351 02 OF 02 140154Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05
CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EPG-02 DODE-00 EB-07
FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-15 OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04
TRSE-00 ACDA-10 NRC-07 PA-02 PRS-01 FRB-01 XMB-04
OPIC-06 LAB-04 SIL-01 /166 W
-----140219Z 119565 /20

R 131840Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8282
INFO AMCONSUL BREMEN
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMCONSUL STUTTGART
USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 08351

ZENS' INITIATIVES. CONCURRENTLY, THERE WAS IN-
CREASING IRRITATION AMONG THE WORKERS INVOLVED IN
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BONN 08351 02 OF 02 140154Z

THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATIONS OF NUCLEAR POWER
PLANTS WHO FEARED THE LOSS OF THEIR JOBS UNLESS THE
CITIZENS' INITIATIVES WERE EFFECTIVELY COUNTERED.
THE GOVERNMENT TACITLY ENCOURAGED THIS SENTIMENT
EXPRESSED BY THE WORKERS AND WORKS COUNSELLORS OF
SUCH MAJOR PLANTS, AS THE KRAFTWERKS-UNION (KWU).
(THE CHANCELLOR RECENTLY RECEIVED A GROUP OF KWU
WORKS COUNCILLORS TO LISTEN TO THEIR CONCERNS.)
FURTHERMORE, THE MINISTER FOR TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH,
HANS MATTHOEFER (SPD MEMBER AND A FORMER LEADING OFFICIAL IN
THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE DGB METALWORKERS UNION) BRIEFED
TOP LABOR LEADERS ON NUCLEAR ENERGY EARLY IN MARCH
AND EXPLAINED THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION. PUBLICATION
OF THIS DGB OPINION STATEMENT PROBABLY HAS BEEN EXPE-
DITED BY RECENT RIOTS ACCOMPANYING DEMONSTRATIONS OF
NUCLEAR OPPONENTS AT BUILDING SITES OF NEW NUCLEAR
POWER PLANT PROJECTS THUS INCREASING THE JOB RISK OF
IMPORTANT GROUPS OF ORGANIZED LABOR.

6. FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, THE DGB MINE AND ENERGY
WORKERS UNION HAS BEEN IN THE FRONT RANKS OF
SUPPORTERS OF NUCLEAR ENERGY. THE METALWORKERS UNION
FOLLOWED AFTER SOME ORIGINAL RELUCTANCE, PROBABLY YIEL-
ING TO PRESSURE FROM AMONG ITS LOWER ECHELONS AS DID
THE CONSTRUCTION AND CHEMICAL WORKERS UNION. ON THE
OTHER HAND, SOME OF THE SMALLER DGB AFFILIATES SEEMED
TO HAVE BEEN INFLUENCED BY THE ARGUMENTS OF NUCLEAR
OPPONENTS. THE LISTING OF CONDITIONS AND MISGIVINGS
IN THE DGB PAPER, HOWEVER, MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR THESE
UNION LEADERS TO ADD THEIR APPROVAL TO THE DECLARATION
IN SPITE OF THEIR RESERVATIONS.
STOESSEL

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR ENERGY, POLICIES, LABOR UNIONS, POPULAR SUPPORT, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BONN08351
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770170-0166
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770563/aaaaccbv.tel
Line Count: 217
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4a833895-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2542565
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DGB ENDORSES USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY UNCLASSIFIED UNCLASSIFIED
TAGS: ELAB, ENRG, GE, DGB
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4a833895-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009